

# Arizona State Board of Education

FY 2022-2023 Budget Request

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HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

JANUARY 20, 2022



# Arizona State Board of Education Overview

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## Who is the Arizona State Board of Education?

The Arizona State Board of Education (SBE) is a constitutionally created body consisting of 11 members. Board members include the Superintendent of Public Instruction and representatives from K-12, higher education and the public. All of the members, with the exception of the Superintendent, are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.

SBE's mission to develop successful citizens through robust public education.

## What is SBE's role?

SBE is statutorily charged with adopting rules and policies to supervise and regulate Arizona's K-12 system. Specifically, this includes:

- Investigating and disciplining educators who engage in immoral or unprofessional conduct;
- Adopting the Accountability System for schools;
- Adopting statewide assessments;
- Adopting state academic standards;
- Adopting a minimum course of study, including minimum graduation requirements;
- Enacting policies governing the state's third grade Move on When Reading law;
- Adopting rules for the Empowerment Scholarship Account (ESA) Program and considering appeals from ESA parents;
- And more...



# Arizona State Board of Education Overview

	FY 2022 Approved (Baseline)	FY 2023 Request (Requests Above Baseline)	FY 2023 Total (Request and Baseline)
Operating Budget	2,190,000 and 18 FTEs*	1,089,000 and 6 FTEs	3,279,000 and 24 FTEs
<i>Special Line Item - Empowerment Scholarship Account Rules and Appeals</i>	150,000 and 1 FTE		150,000 and 1 FTE
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,340,000 and 19 FTEs</b>		<b>3,429,000 and 25 FTEs</b>

\*In FY 2022, the Legislature transferred the Investigative Unit (IU) from the Arizona Department of Education to SBE and expanded the IU from 6 FTEs to 12 FTEs. The IU investigates allegations of educator misconduct.



# SBE - FY 2023 Budget Request

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Educator Discipline

Policy Development and  
Implementation

Constituent Services and  
Educator Development

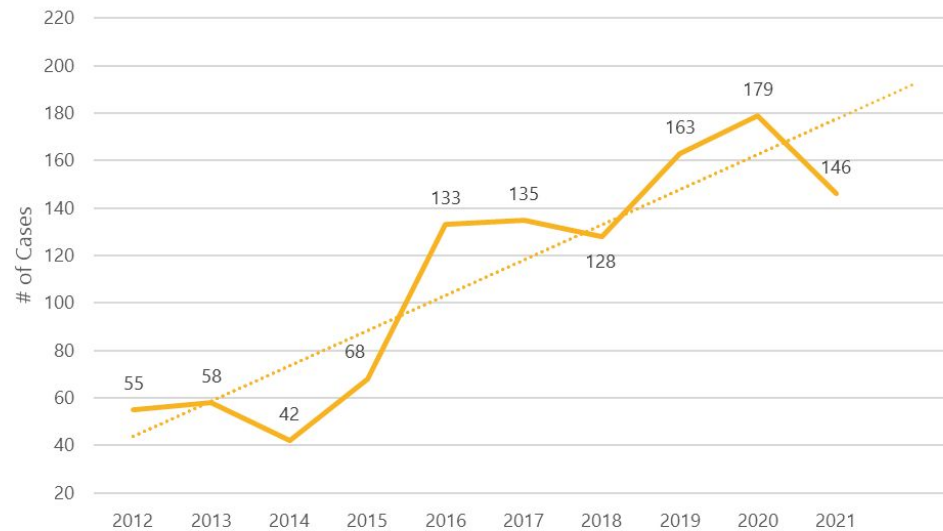
Empowerment Scholarship  
Accounts



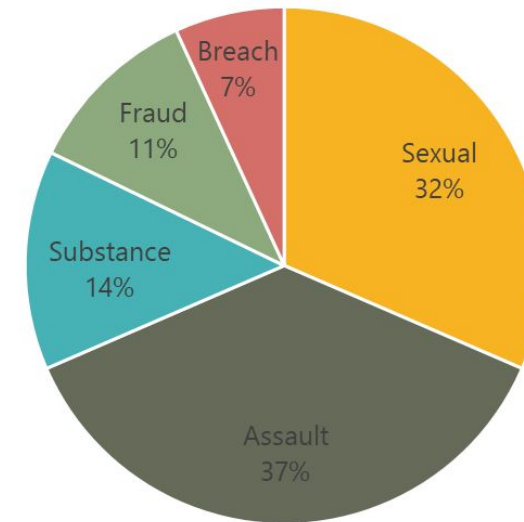
# Educator Discipline – Overview

SBE is charged with investigating and disciplining educator misconduct

Number of Discipline Cases Over Time - Historical and Projected



Category of Cases Adjudicated (2021)



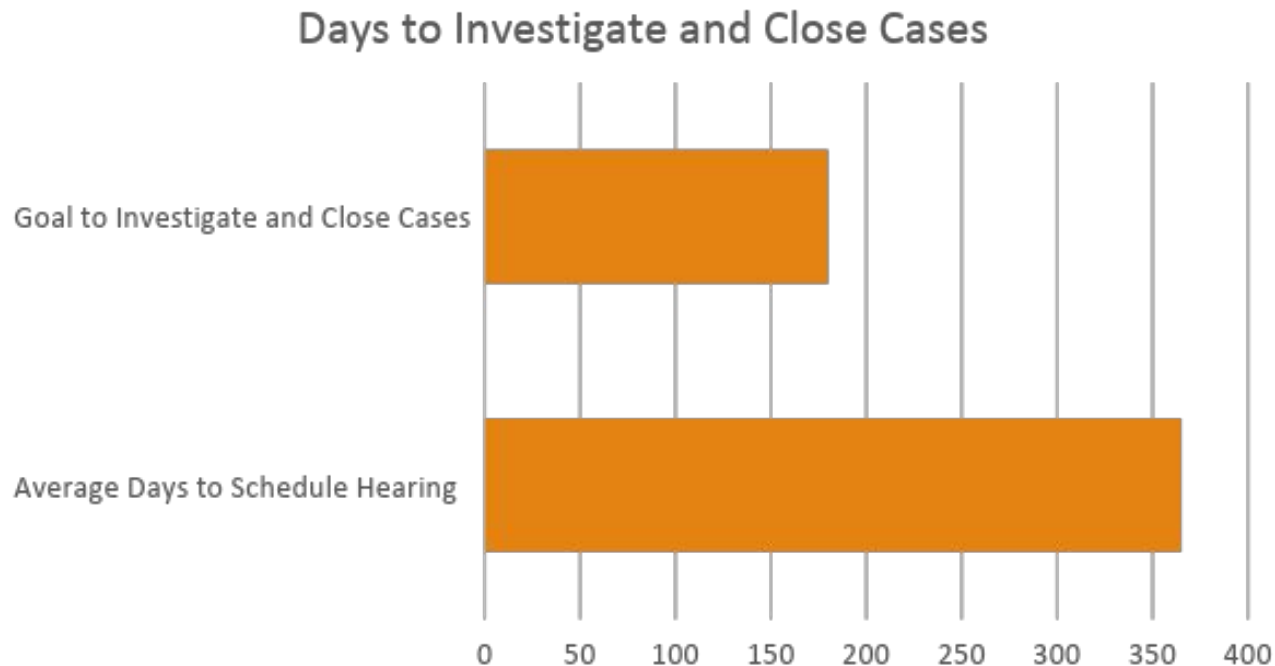
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Sexual category includes cases ranging from violation of boundaries (e.g. inappropriate texting w/ a student or grooming behavior) to inappropriate or illegal physical acts



# Educator Discipline – Adjudicate Faster

As the number and seriousness of cases continues to increase, so does the time to adjudicate those cases. It currently takes **8-12 months** to schedule a hearing due to insufficient resources on the adjudication side of the process



## ED DISCIPLINE – ADJUDICATE FASTER ABOVE BASELINE: \$594,800

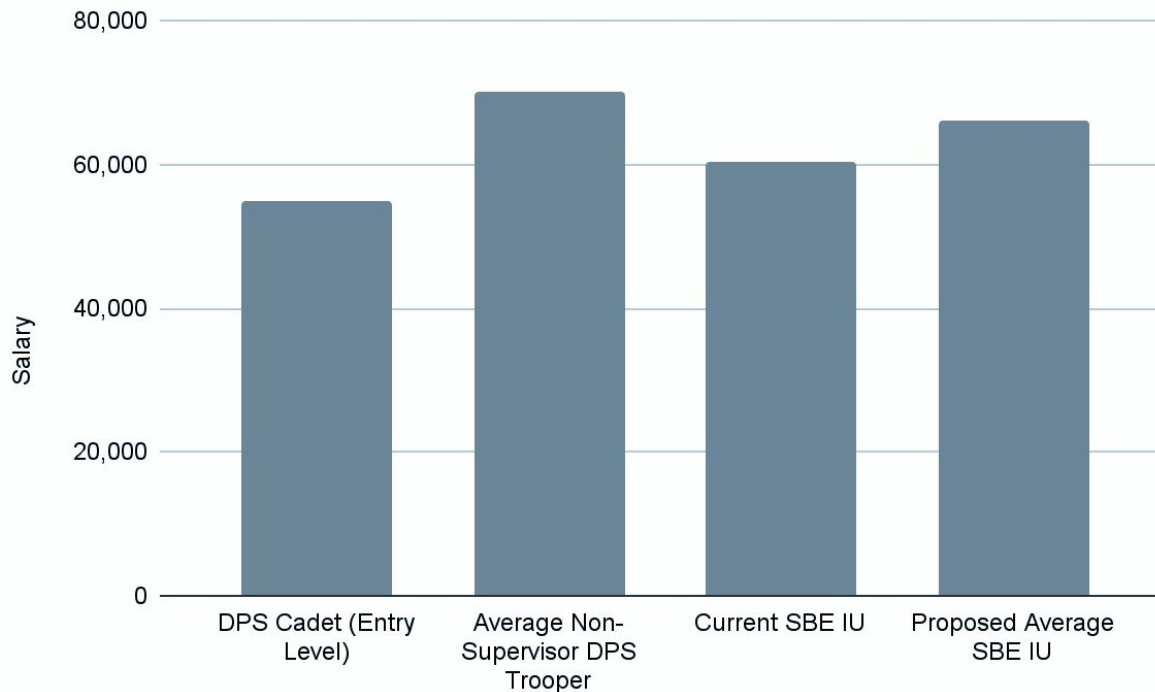
- \$413,800 for 3 Assistant Attorney Generals
- \$156,00 for two administrative assistants
- \$25,000 for hearing costs

Additional funds will allow SBE to adjudicate cases faster and increase student safety



# Educator Discipline – Recruit/Retain Investigators

The Investigative Unit is comprised of former DPS troopers, police detectives, and other former officers each averaging over 20+ years of experience. Current salaries are not commensurate with other state agencies and the current pay structure of the IU is inefficient and not built for continuity



ED DISCIPLINE – RECRUIT/RETAIN  
INVESTIGATORS REQUEST ABOVE BASELINE:  
\$109,000 FOR INVESTIGATOR RAISES



# Policy Development and Implementation

SBE is charged with range of K-12 powers and duties:

- Adopting state academic standards
- Adopting statewide assessments
- Adopting the Accountability System for schools
- Adopting minimum graduation requirements
- Adopting educator certification requirements
- Adopting school district procurement rules
- Adopting policies governing early literacy
- And more...

In recent years this list has grown without additional resources requiring SBE to shelve existing statutory requirements.

With additional funding, SBE will be able to:

- Improve the state's ECAP policy to provide students more meaningful education and career planning
- Update antiquated special education rules (A.R.S. § 15-766)
- Review graduation requirements for effectiveness and alignment to the state's goals (A.R.S. § 15-701.01)
- Establish a moral, civic and ethical education handbook for teachers (A.R.S. § 15-203(A)(25))

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION  
REQUEST ABOVE BASELINE:  
\$191,000 AND 2 FTES





# Constituent Services and Educator Development

This request will allow SBE to:

- Provide a public awareness effort regarding school choice as envisioned in statute and provide parents more hands-on tools to navigate their school choice options
- Provide the public more easily accessible tools for understanding the state's accountability system
- Provide educators with professional development to proactively address the rise in educator misconduct

## Possible Starting Points for Possible Work Product



### If I'm a parent, how should I use the A-F ratings?

#### A-F Accountability



An overview of Texas A-F Accountability System for parents and How they can use it



#### HYPOTHETICAL SCENARIOS PRACTICE

When reviewing the scenarios, please note there may be school policies that address your approach.

1. Several of your students are near you, laughing, so you ask what is so funny. A student, giggling, tells you that his friend's little brother, two grades below them, saw a picture of naked people on a beach on his teacher's cell phone. This happened when the teacher let him use her cell phone as a calculator for math. What would you do?
2. You are playing a video game with your friends. A student of yours requests to be added to your group. What do you do?
3. You are taking students on a field trip and need to be able to contact the students while planning and attending the trip. You ask for all of the students' cell phone numbers and you provide your personal cell phone number to the students. What do you do?
4. You, as a teacher at school, enter another teacher's classroom. That teacher is instructing the class, but seems "a little out of it". You approach the teacher and smell the odor of alcohol on his breath. The teacher's eyes are slightly blood shot. It's 10:00 a.m. in the morning. What would you do?
5. You notice that a fellow educator has a special bond with a student. You have witnessed the student alone in the classroom with the educator, you have heard the educator and the student tell inside jokes to one another and overheard a conversation between the student and the student's friend stating that the student "just loves" the educator and plans on attending a pizza party the educator is hosting on Saturday. What do you do?

CONSTITUENT SERVICES AND EDUCATOR DEVELOPMENT REQUEST ABOVE BASELINE: \$113,000 AND 1 FTE



# Empowerment Scholarship Accounts

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SBE is charged with processing appeals from ESA parents. Parents filed **231 appeals in 2021**; the first year SBE began processing appeals. **No more than 14 went to hearing in 2020.**

The 1 FTE appropriated in 2021 is statutorily charged with assisting ESA rulemaking and appeals. Without additional support, FTE will only focus on appeals and delays in processing the appeals is possible.



1550%  
increase in  
appeals

ESA REQUEST ABOVE BASELINE:  
\$79,000 AND 1 FTE



# Total FY 2023 SBE Request

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FY 2023 BUDGET REQUEST ABOVE BASELINE:  
\$1,089,000 AND 6 FTES

SBE Full Budget Request: <https://azsbe.az.gov/sites/default/files/media/FY23%20Budget%20Request.pdf>.

For questions, please contact Alicia Williams, Executive Director, at [alicia.williams@azsbe.az.gov](mailto:alicia.williams@azsbe.az.gov) or Catcher Baden, Deputy Director, at [catcher.baden@azsbe.az.gov](mailto:catcher.baden@azsbe.az.gov)

